Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* May I know Government has any objection to so amend the rules as to make the courts to do it? *Suo moto*?

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* That requires consideration.

Mr. President: The question is being examined.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* I may bring to the notice of the Government that I know Mr. C. Achyuta Menon of the Trichur Bar who was convicted as a political prisoner was kept in the third class. It was because he did not move for a special treatment.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam):* With the permission of the Chair I shall read a booklet written by Mr. C. Achyuta Menon "a jail bird of the State".

Mr. President: On what subject?

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam):* On his experiences in our jail.

Mr. President: Since the Hon'ble Member has been informed that Mr. C. Achyuta Menon did not plead for special treatment, I do not consider that his experience in the third class is a very relevant question here. I can assure the Hon'ble Member that I will look into the question.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam):* Thank you, Sir, I do not press the motion.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn

The demand of Rs. 64,378 under "17—Jails" was put and carried

12. Jails (Cranganur)—Rs. 369

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* I rise to move for an allotment of Rs. 369 under "12—Jails (Cranganur)".

Demand put and carried

18. Police—Rs. 2,93,673

Khan Sahib Y. Muhammad Roshan Sahib Bahadur *(Commissioner of Police):* Mr. President, Sir. I rise to move for an allotment of Rs. 2,93,676 under "18—Police". Originally I did not really intend to make a speech in support of my motion. Here in this State which is far advanced in the political field, the Government in practice are in a large measure responsive to the opinion of this House and to the opinion of the public. So when I ask for an allotment I think I should explain the position and make my claim to the satisfaction of this House. Essentially I am only a Police man not much accustomed to politics or parliamentary methods. I will put my ideas in my own way and I do hope the House will have satisfaction.

The one peculiar feature which I notice in the budget for the Police this year is that the allotment of last year is enhanced by about Rs. 56,000. And this increase, I find, is mainly due to 4 heads of extra expenditure, and this extra expenditure is not of a recurring nature and is peculiar to the existing conditions. The first item of this extra expenditure is due to the dearness allowance and the second is due to house-rent allowance granted to the poorly paid subordinates of the Police Force. These two allowances together are responsible for nearly half the enhanced amount of this year's budget. I have no doubt at all that the Hon'ble Members are thoroughly in support of these allowances, the dearness allowance and the house-rent allowance. On the other hand I am aware that the Hon'ble Members are very much in favour of the Police men being treated much more liberally and the Hon'ble Members are of the opinion that even the scale of pay of the Police subordinates must be enhanced. When I first came here I also got an impression that the Police subordinates in the State were poorly paid. That was the first impression, and I do not know how I got that impression. With that impression I thoroughly went into the question but soon discovered that I had made a mistake. Now I find that some Hon'ble Members appear to have been in the same position as I was myself and that is because they did not know or do not even now know what exactly is the scale of pay in the various classes of the Police subordinates. I am thoroughly satisfied that the subordinate Police officers in the State are far far better than in most of the Indian States. I am not giving my opinion for your consumption. I am giving you facts and figures from which you can judge for yourselves. An ordinary constable here has got a scale of pay from Rs. 12 to Rs. 16. We have been in the habit of comparing our standard with our neighbouring State, the sister State, Travancore. I think, I may be excused if I make a comparison with that State. In Travancore the scale of pay of a constable starts at Rs. 11 instead of Rs. 12 as is in our State, and the highest scale is Rs. 14 and not Rs. 16 as in this State. Then if we come to the Head constable, the scale of pay there is Rs. 18 as it is here. There, it stops at Rs. 25 whereas we have advanced it to

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Rs. 30. In the case of the inspectorate, we have here two classes of Inspectors—one class is Sub-Inspectors and the other class is Division Inspectors. Both are Inspectors of the inspectorate and the scale of pay starts with Rs. 40 and goes up to Rs. 200. But in Travancore State, they have got only one class called Inspectors and the scale of pay starts with Rs. 75 and goes up to Rs. 200. The Head constables and constables have also got good chances of promotion. If a School Final candidate starts as a constable, provided he is efficient, he becomes a Head constable within two or three years and afterwards he becomes a Sub-Inspector whose pay rises from Rs. 40 to 100, and according to his merits and efficiency, he has got also chances of becoming a Division Inspector on Rs. 200. This is the position of which I was not aware when I had the impression of believing that the Police-men in this State were poorly paid and required enhanced pay. A comparison may also be had with British India. The affairs in British India are quite different. There, for instance, the District Magistrate draws Rs. 1,500 to 2,000. But that officer who draws such a big salary is made responsible for a good many things and for a very vast area. Here we have got a small area and the whole State may form only a part of a British District. So the administrative expenditure cannot be increased, because every department is to have a Head of the Department and every department must have its own staff, though the area is small. So we have to compare ourselves only with our sister States—Indian States. There the conditions are very common with ours. I compare not only with Travancore but I also know what is happening in Mysore State, for instance. Though I am not going into details, I can say that the scale of pay of the Police is not better and even when compared with Hyderabad the scale of pay is not better and on the other hand the currency in which they are paid is of less value.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam)* : Without interruption, may I know the pay of the Police Sub-Inspectors in British India ?

Khan Sahib Y. Muhammad Roshan Sahib Bahadur *(Commissioner of Police)*: In British India the Sub-Inspector starts on Rs. 55 and rises to Rs. 150. The extent of the area allotted to them and the amount of work they have to turn out cannot at all be compared with the duties of an ordinary Sub-Inspector here ; because the British Government pay and they also know how to extract the full value of what they pay for. This is about the scale of pay. Over and above the scale of pay I may tell the House how our Police Force are deriving other advantages. Even the extra expenditure I mentioned now is for the dearness allowance. In British India an officer of the scale who is entitled to a dearness allowance gets only Rs. 1—8—0. On the other hand here in this State, every Government servant gets Rs. 2. In that respect our State is leading not only in the point of time but also in the point of amount. Apart from this the Government have also sanctioned the grant to the Police subordinates, that is, Police constables and Head constables, of a house-rent allowance from the beginning of next year. Every Head constable who resides in the expensive towns like Mattancheri, Ernakulam or Trichur will get a house allowance of Rs. 3 and every constable Rs. 2. In rural areas where houses are comparatively cheap the Head constable gets Rs. 1—8—0 and the constable Re. 1. This problem was taken up by the Diwan and the complete solution of the problem lies in the construction of quarters for the Police. In British India every Police officer has got Government quarters, and if Government quarters are not available, they take houses on lease and placed at the disposal of the Police officials. Here the question is different. The constables and Head constables are hard hit. I myself had occasion to visit some of the places in which the Head constables and constables are put up, and I found that they are in unhealthy localities and the morale of the Force is very much undermined. Therefore the Diwan has taken it as a matter of constructive proposal to construct Government quarters and in the meanwhile these house-rents are allowed. Certain members of this House hope that it is rather untimely to undertake this construction. On the other hand I must represent the position of my subordinates and say that in the time of emergency or in the time of a threat these Police men will have to stay at their posts and it is they who need shelter more than anybody else. Every member of the public may find shelter elsewhere and leave the locality and may be comfortable somewhere. But the Police man as a member of the essential services, cannot go and he must stick here and therefore he must have shelter. So the Hon'ble Members will realise that the Government have taken up the construction of these quarters which is very opportune and very essential now.

The next item of expenditure which has enhanced our allotment this year is the direct recruitment of certain officers for training in the Vellore School. Already we are very short of strength and of efficient officers to look after our own affairs here. Therefore we must have some officers directly recruited and trained on the lines obtaining in British India. The school for Police training is the best at Vellore in British India. In this connection I have only to say

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that in the matter of recruitment the order of communal rotation will be very strictly adhered to and also has to be adhered to as far as possible. Because the Hon'ble Members realise that the Police Force is of a particular type and every man cannot fit in, and in selecting candidates who are particularly suitable for the department, Government must have a very wide field. Supposing we are to take a man of a particular community, if that community has failed to produce the man of the desired standard, Government will be going to the next community. There is also another point raised by the Hon'ble Members that for these vacancies why not promote some from the existing Police Officers and send them for training. There is no point in saying that some of the existing officers may be sent for training. Besides, the principle of direct recruitment is based on the fact that the Police Force or any Department must have fresh men to infuse fresh and young blood into the Department. Besides, the man who is already in service has got his own place reserved for promotion. The direct recruitment is based upon a ratio and the vacancies arising in the Department are divided into 3 parts. One part is set apart particularly for the men already in the Police Force which will be filled up by promotions and the two-thirds of the vacancies are open to competition from outside. The upper places are not shut down for a man already in the Force, or for that matter if there is a qualified man who is qualified under the new recruitment rules, there is nothing to prevent him from competing for direct recruitment.

The 4th item which has enhanced our budget allotment is the temporary staff. The emergent conditions in which we are, owing to the unrest all over India and all over the world justify an increase in the strength of our Police Force. This temporary staff consists of extra Police of the Armed Reserve—one Sergeant and 50 constables. Such a staff was found necessary as conditions now exist. But this allotment for temporary staff is not for the officers who have come from the Madras Province. For, the officers of the Madras Government are absorbed in posts already sanctioned by the Government. Hon'ble Members know more than I, as to how things prevailed in those days, when there was a Police Strike and Japan threatened invasion. The Police Force was very much under-strength.

Even the existing Deputy Commissioner, for instance, in preference to the Police work, was taken to A. R. P. An Officer with experience was wanted and the possible man required for that purpose was the Deputy Commissioner of Police. When he was taken like that his place was left vacant. Even the D. S. P. in the Police Force was required elsewhere for an equally important post. No other man could have gone to that post if things were to be perfected. So, one D. S. P. was also lost to this Department. To fill up these vacancies by advertising, you cannot get candidates. In other Departments you may get candidates immediately. But in the case of the Police Force, nothing of the kind is possible. We must have efficient men for the Police work. Therefore, under the conditions of the strike, under the conditions of the threatening invasion and under the conditions of very much under-strength of the Police Force, the Government wisely thought of getting some officers from outside. I may say also the other side of the question. The Madras Government would not spare their officers. They were reluctant. They were as much short to manage their own affairs. Only it was the influence of the present Diwan with the Madras Government that induced the Madras Government to send their Police Officers into the State. This deputation is meant to be for a short period. As soon as we are able to look after our own affairs, the Madras Officers will only be too pleased to go away and our own officers can as well run our own affairs. That is the position.

There seems to be some misunderstanding in the bringing in of the officers of the Madras Government. The Madras Officers by coming over here derive very little advantage. Then again, the State Government have made a profit in the transaction, including in the pay of the Commissioner of Police. The previous Police Commissioner was drawing Rs. 700 while the present Commissioner draws Rs. 625, even as against his own Rs. 675 elsewhere. The State Government have managed things so very cleverly. I must tell you that the Madras Officials care for position and reputation. If the Commissioner was elsewhere a Deputy Commissioner and if he is to be a Commissioner here even on a reduction of pay, he would rather go as a Commissioner than stay as a Deputy Commissioner. The present Deputy Commissioner, for instance, draws only Rs. 281 despite the 25 per cent deputation allowance as against the pay of Rs. 400 which the previous Deputy Commissioner used to draw. Even in the matter of Sub-Inspectors, two of the Sub-Inspectors draw Rs. 70 and the 3rd Rs. 55. Even if you do consider the extra 25 per cent as deputation allowance, it will be Rs. 97 for two and for the 3rd Rs. 69—much lower than some of our own Sub-Inspectors who draw Rs. 100.

Then the question about T.A. Their travelling allowance is as in the Madras T.A. rules. Now, under the so-called Madras Rules, they draw only Rs. 5 per month, whereas here in this

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State a Sub-Inspector in charge of a Station gets a fixed T.A. of Rs. 25. Unfortunately these Madras Officers are posted in Town Stations wherein they are eligible under the Madras Rules only for Rs. 5. So, this is the position of the officers drawn from outside.

Then again I think a member said, if I understood him properly, that out of the officers who came from Madras only one knew Malayalam. That is not correct. Every one of those officers who came from Madras knows Malayalam and belongs to the West Coast excepting the Commissioner himself and even in the case of the Commissioner he knows every one of the South Indian language, except Malayalam.

I was speaking about the cycle allowance. What are the Head-constables and constables getting? Apart from the scale of pay, apart from the house allowance and the dearness allowance every constable who lives in the town is also getting what is known as a town allowance of Re. 1 per month. These town allowances are given in Mattancheri, Ernakulam and Trichur. Over and above these allowances every Head-constable who maintains a cycle also gets Rs. 3. I am afraid the Hon'ble Members of this House would come to the conclusion that the Police-men are being paid more than they deserve.

While I am speaking of the temporary staff I may also mention that without extra cost to the tax-payer the Government have adopted a large scheme, the organisation of the Special Guards. They are for all practical purposes Police-men under the law and have got the same powers as the Police. We had for a while to bring in a small detachment of the M. S. P. and that was absolutely necessary in those days because a good number of constables were under strike and the remainder also could not be trusted to be loyal or faithful. In those conditions the Malabar Special Police had been drawn and I can assure the House that the Government are very anxious to minimise the expenditure and as soon as it becomes plain that we no longer need their services they will be despatched. In the same connection I may also mention for the information of the House—in fact it is my duty to keep the House informed—about the present position. I may assure the House that the Police Force has settled down to a very loyal and faithful way of discharging their duties. I am introducing certain reorganisation not only in the Police Force but also of the Nayar Brigade as ordered by the Diwan. As I said we have increased our Armed Reserve. Then we have got Special Guards. When we have got all these forces well trained we no longer require the M. S. P. or any assistance from outside either from Madras or elsewhere. We will be self-sufficient and we will be strong to meet any emergency and that will be within a very very short time.

Sir, I have had occasion to see the number of cut motions levelled against me or against the Budget. Most of these points I hope, I have met and I think I have convinced the Hon'ble Members what exactly is the position of the Government. If the Hon'ble Members are convinced that the Government are going on the right lines honestly and efficiently, I do not think there is any occasion for any Hon'ble Member to move these cut motions. But it is not my intention to eliminate these cut motions. Cut motions by way of healthy discussion are welcome and I will have the advantage of what Hon'ble Members have to say on the various subjects. But those cut motions do not involve the question of policy of the Police Administration but only deal with isolated aspects of more or less minor denomination. As regards the policy I take it that the Hon'ble Members are convinced that it is very sound.

There was a question of the so-called ban on processions. I already explained the position of the Government even with regard to that and I may add only this that it is not the intention of the Government, much less mine, to administer the Police Department under cover of such special measures, I would rather try to administer the Police Department under the normal law with normal powers. *(Hear, hear).* And beyond that it is needless for me to say anything.

As regards internal security I can assure this House that the Government are taking all the measures necessary to assure the public of absolute internal peace. And with the co-operation of the public and with the assistance of the Hon'ble Members we hope to stand by ourselves in the State on a fair footing of efficiency in internal matters compared with the rest of India. The Hon'ble Members must view the policy of the Government in this direction with care and caution and with consideration. Criticising the policy on its merits is good and helpful. But criticising the policy on party grounds may not be helpful. I am responsible to this House and to the public at large for the internal security. I must express what all obstacles I may have to meet before I assure the Government that I will be able to do what they expect me to do. So in achieving absolute internal security if the Government strike upon a particular policy that will be with the hope and assurance that this House will see eye to eye with that particular policy. I may also assure the House that any policy adopted will be in the public interests and not for any other consideration.

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The Hon'ble Members have heard me fully and patiently and I do not think there is anything more for me to add except two more points of some importance. There is a suggestion for the location of certain out-posts in certain areas. I have noted these suggestions but I have not been able to visit these areas. Out-posts are located according to the requirements of the place and the requirements have to be judged from the fact of population and the fact of criminal population. I will visit these places and do the needful in the matter.

Another point also I may mention. Some Hon'ble Members have been asking me for fixing the rate of fares for bus services. There is a rule already in force fixing the maximum fare of one and a half annas per mile. But if any one particular locality is handicapped on this account, steps will of course be taken to eradicate the evil. So I take it that the Hon'ble Members will sanction my allotment.

CUT MOTION No. 1

To raise the pay of the constables in the State

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* Sir, *I move to reduce the allotment of Rs. 13,275 for office Establishment by Re. 1. To draw the attention of the Government to the need to raise the pay of the constables in the State.*

I am particularly glad to find that in the matter of the cut motion that stands in my name the Hon'ble Member in charge of Police Administration has already tried to meet what he regarded as the probable arguments that I may advance in support of the cut motion. I appreciate the remarkably disarming plausibility of his arguments when he has been establishing almost conclusively that the Police Force in our State are much better off than the Police Force of the Travancore State. My idea in tabling this cut motion before this House was not for purposes of comparison. I wanted the problem to be considered on its intrinsic merits as to whether the Police Force are now being adequately paid so that they can live normally and reasonably. I don't know whether it was inadvertance on the part of the Hon'ble Member when he said that the Police Force are now getting more than they deserve.

Khan Sahib Y. Muhammad Roshan Sahib Bahadur *(Commissioner of Police):* I never said that. I expressed the fear that Hon'ble Members may come to that conclusion.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* I am one of those persons who believe that the Police Force is vital for the preservation of internal security and as such they must be given sufficient inducement as to keep them above corruption and above want. For a decision of this question the only fact that need be placed before this house is to refer to the budget and see what exactly are the provisions made. Now, out of the total Police Force of the State apart from the high-paid staff I find 149 constables are paid at the rate of Rs. 14 per mensem and 321 at the rate of Rs. 12.

Mr. President: I may remind the Hon'ble Member of one point. There is a very large number of newly recruited constables due to the increase of the Police Force, as a result of the present emergency.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cra ganur):* What I am submitting for the consideration of this House is that the increase is necessitated because of peculiar circumstances and peculiar conditions. But because of the peculiarity of circumstances and conditions the Government had found it necessary to increase the force it does not follow that the pay which the constable has been drawing up to this and is drawing is the minimum which they want to lead a reasonable life. Now, Sir, it has been argued before this House that because of the dearness allowance which has been given to all subordinate officials in the State drawing less than Rs. 25 each constable will be getting Rs. 2 more. I fully concede that it is a very wise step on the part of the Government to give these hard worked officers Rs. 2. Does this House for a moment think that it is possible for any man having a family to live on Rs. 14 per mensem and have two square meals per day? There is no meaning in arguing that because a constable is posted to Town he will be getting an additional one rupee as Town allowance. Now that House allowance will go as soon as the Police Lines are constructed and further the House allowance is not to be utilised as a means of filling the stomach. The question is whether these people are now drawing enough if they have got to live in a town and attend to their duties properly upon a well filled stomach. My submission to this House is that it is absolutely insufficient. Now, comparing the figures of our State with that of British India, I am prepared to concede, is not after all a very healthy measure because if we compare the condition of our constables with those of far richer countries normally it will be low. That would not validate the argument that because we are getting more than Travancore our people are in the best of all

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